

# AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

46th Year

CHICAGO, ILL., NOV. 8, 1906

No. 45



Patterson Brothers—U. S. Soldiers—in Apiary of T. P. Robinson, of Bartlett, Texas.



Queen-Rearing Apiary on Petit St. Bernard Mountain (Alps), 6500 feet above sea-level.  
(See page 930)



PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY  
**GEORGE W. YORK & COMPANY**  
 334 Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICES.

THE SUBSCRIPTION PRICE of this Journal is \$1.00 a year, in the United States, Canada, and Mexico; all other countries in the Postal Union, 50 cents a year extra for postage. Sample copy free.

THE WRAPPER-LABEL DATE indicates the end of the month to which your subscription is paid. For instance, "dec 31" on your label shows that it is paid to the end of December, 1906.

SUBSCRIPTION RECEIPTS.—We do not send a receipt for money sent us to pay subscription, but change the date on your wrapper-label, which shows that the money has been received and credited.

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Reading Notices, 25 cents, count line, subject to the above discounts.

Goes to press Monday morning.

#### National Bee-Keepers' Association

Objects of the Association.

- 1st.—To promote the interests of its members.
- 2d.—To protect and defend its members in their lawful rights.
- 3d.—To enforce laws against the adulteration of honey.

Annual Membership Dues, \$1.00.

General Manager and Treasurer—  
 N. E. FRANCE, Plattville, Wis.

If more convenient, Dues may be sent to the publishers of the American Bee Journal.

#### Bee-Keepers' Souvenir Postal-Card.

—We have secured a somewhat comic Souvenir Postal Card for bee-keepers, printed in 4 colors—red, yellow, blue and black. At the left end the following are pictured: An old-fashioned straw bee-hive with bees circling around and above it; a sad-eyed bear with his "hands" over his sweet-loving heart; a jar and a section of honey; also a spoon with a card attached, reading, "Come let us spoon awhile." At the bottom of the card, and to the right, are these words: "Eat thou honey because it is good."—Prov. 24:13. At the left of the bear's head, and encircled with bees, is this sentence: "I can not BEAR to lose you;" and at the top, and to the right of the bear's head and bees, is this stanza:

O won't you BEE my HONEY,  
 And cheer this lonely heart?  
 For I would hug you all the time,  
 And we would never part.

PRICES, postpaid: 3 cards for 10 cents (stamps or silver), or FREE with the American Bee Journal one year at \$1.00; 10 for 25 cents; or 25 for 50 cents. There is a blank space on the card about 2 by 2 1/4 inches in size for writing. Send all orders to the office of the American Bee Journal.

"It is continuous advertising that impresses the public with the stability of a firm."

## Special Bargains

in dovetailed HIVES. Plain and Beeway SECTIONS. Hoffman BROOD-FRAMES. Section-Holders, Separators, etc.

We are enlarging our FACTORY and all of these goods have to be moved. If you want any thing in your apiary, you will do well by writing us at once, and we will make you DELIVERED PRICES that will surprise you. Our stock is all new and up-to-date; we do not keep poor or 2d grade goods. Our sizes are standard. Quality and finish can not be beat by any one. We make any thing used in the apiary, and can save you money and delay at any time of the season. Give us a trial and be convinced. We aim to please our customers and guarantee all our Goods to give entire satisfaction, or refund the money.

## Minnesota Bee-Keepers' Supply Co.

JOHN DOLL & SON, Proprietors,

Nicollet Island, No. 33,

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Mention Bee Journal when writing.

## Dittmer's Foundation

is the best foundation for you to use, because it is tough, transparent, will not sag, and has the odor of pure beeswax.

### WORKING WAX FOR CASH A SPECIALTY

This is the cheapest way for you to secure your foundation.

### BEESWAX ALWAYS WANTED

Our warehouse is well filled with all kinds of Bee-Keepers' Supplies. 5 percent Discount during November.

## GUS DITTMER, Augusta, Wisconsin

### IF YOU WANT TO KEEP POSTED UPON THE GREATEST & POLITICAL & QUESTION

OF THE DAY, YOU MUST READ

## The Defender

the NATIONAL EXPONENT of the PROHIBITION MOVEMENT. 16 pages, weekly; illustrated. To New Subscribers, 50 cents for one year.

WILLIAM P. F. FERGUSON

Editor and Publisher

400 WEST 23RD STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

35Atf Please mention the Bee Journal.

### Queen-Button for Bee-Folks



This is a very pretty thing for a bee-keeper or honey-seller to wear on his coat-lapel. It often serves to introduce the subject of honey, and frequently leads to a sale.

The picture shown herewith is a reproduction of a motto queen-button that we are furnishing to bee-keepers. It has a pin on the underside to fasten it. Price, by mail, 6 cents; two for 10c; or six for 25c. The American Bee Journal one year and 4 buttons for \$1.10. Address all orders to

GEORGE W. YORK & CO.

334 Dearborn Street, CHICAGO, ILL.



## Wisconsin Basswood Sections

And Prompt Shipments

Is what we are making for our customers.

### —DOVETAILED HIVES AND SHIPPING-CASES—

We carry a full line of SUPPLIES. Ask for Catalog.

THE MARSHFIELD MANUFACTURING CO., Marshfield, Wis.

Please Mention the American Bee Journal when writing Advertisers





## The Lion Engine

is sold direct from  
**FACTORY to USER**

Acting on the theory that "testing is proving," we will send any responsible person, on certain very easy conditions, one of our three h. p. gas or gasoline engines on **10 days test trial**.

This engine is **no experiment**, but has been proved by actual use to do any work (where the rated amount of power is required) in the most practical, reliable, safe and economical way.

This engine is of the four cycle type. While the engine is up to normal speed the exhaust valve is held open, allowing free circulation of fresh air in the cylinder. The igniter and intake valve are at rest, therefore are not using gasoline or the batteries.

Our igniter and mixer are of the most simple and reliable character. The gasoline is always properly vaporized and the igniter point never comes together unless a spark is required.

The fly ball type of governor is used, which automatically controls the exhaust, igniter and the gasoline; it also allows the speed to be changed from 100 to 600 revolutions per minute while the engine is in motion—a very superior feature.

**LION GAS OR GASOLINE ENGINES**  
are simple in construction and  
**EASY TO OPERATE**

They are used for all purposes where power is required for operating private electric-lighting plants, small factories, printing offices, farm machinery, such as cream separators, feed-grinders, corn shellers, wood-sawing machines, etc., and for a thousand and one other purposes.

### WRITE US A LETTER LIKE THIS:

LYONS ENGINE CO.,  
Lyons, Mich.

Gentlemen: I am about to purchase a gas or gasoline engine for \_\_\_\_\_ purpose and wish you to send me full particulars about your approval offer as advertised in American Bee Journal. Yours very truly,

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

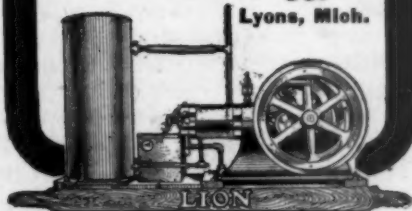
Street No. or P. O. Box \_\_\_\_\_

R. F. D. \_\_\_\_\_

When writing, please state definitely for what purpose you wish to use this engine and whether gas or gasoline is to be used for fuel. This information is very important to us. Please remember we send the engine, not the engine agent.

**LYONS ENGINE CO.**

Lyons, Mich.



"If Goods are wanted Quick, send to Pouder"



## BEE-SUPPLIES

Root's Goods at Root's Prices

Everything used by Bee-Keepers.

**POUDER'S HONEY-JARS.**

Prompt Service.

Low Freight Rates.

Catalog Free.

### BEESWAX WANTED

I pay highest market price for beeswax, delivered here, at any time, cash or trade. Make small shipments by express; large shipments by freight, always being sure to attach your name to the package. My large illustrated catalog is free. I shall be glad to send it to you.

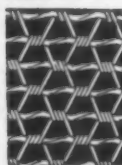
### EARLY ORDER DISCOUNT

During November I will offer a discount of 5 percent on Supplies for next season's use. In December the discount will be 4 percent. Cash must accompany order.

**WALTER S. POUDER**

513-515 Massachusetts Ave.,

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.



### FENCE Strongest Made

Made of High Carbon coiled wire. We have no agents. Sell direct to user at factory prices on 30 days free trial. We pay all freight. Catalog shows 37 styles and heights of farm and poultry fence. It's free. Buy direct. Write today.

**COILED SPRING FENCE CO.**  
Box 80 WINCHESTER, INDIANA.



Hatch Chickens by  
Steam with the  
**EXCELSIOR INCUBATOR**  
Or WOODEN HEN

Simple, perfect, self-regulating.  
Hatch every fertile egg. Lowest  
priced first-class hatcheries made.  
**GEO. H. STAHL, Quincy, Ill.**

## Fire Sale of Bee and Poultry Supplies

Come or send and **Save 25 to 50 Percent** on slightly damaged goods.

**Lewis Goods at 5 percent Discount**

**DURING NOVEMBER,**  
EXCEPT ON HONEY-PACKAGES.

Any bee-keeper living within a reasonable distance of Chicago can make money on any Supplies he may need now or later, by coming to Chicago and looking over the goods that we selected out after the fire. Better order quick, if you want any of the goods we are selling at 25 to 50 percent reduction.

**Send for list of Slightly Damaged Goods to select from at Reduced Prices.**

Quote us prices on Honey and Beeswax. Honey in 60-pound cans for sale.

**H. M. ARND, Proprietor, York Honey and Bee-Supply Co.** (Not Inc.)

Long Distance Telephone, North 1559. **191 AND 193 SUPERIOR ST. CHICAGO, ILL.**  
(Three blocks north and one block east of our old location.)

## Tennessee-Bred Queens

All from Extra-Select Mothers

3-band from Imported Dark Leather, Moore's Long-Tongue, or my own. Golden from Laws, Doolittle's or my own. Caucasians and Carniolans from direct Imported.

AFTER APRIL 15TH.

	Italians Before July 1st			After July 1st			CARNIOLAN S			CAUCASIANS		
	1	6	12	1	6	12	1	6	12	1	6	12
Untested .....	\$.75	\$4.00	\$7.50	\$.60	\$3.25	\$6.00	\$.85	\$4.50	\$8.00	\$.95	\$5.00	\$8.50
Select Untested .....	1.00	5.00	9.00	.75	4.25	8.00	1.10	5.50	9.50	1.20	6.00	10.00
Tested .....	1.50	8.00	15.00	1.25	6.50	12.00	1.60	8.50	15.50	1.70	9.00	16.00
Select, Tested ..	2.00	10.00	18.00	1.50	8.00	15.00	2.10	10.50	18.50	2.20	11.00	19.00

Straight 5-band Golden Breeders.....	\$10.00	1-frame Nucleus (no queen) .....	\$1.50
Select Golden Breeders .....	3.00	2-frame " .....	2.00
" 3-band " .....	3.00	3-frame " .....	2.50
" Carniolan " .....	3.10	4-frame " .....	3.00
" Caucasian " .....	3.25	1 full colony without queen in 8-frame dovetailed hive.....	6.00

Bees by the pound in light shipping-boxes, \$1.00 per pound.

Select the Queen wanted, and add the price to the above prices.

Discounts on large orders. Contracts with dealers a specialty. No bee-disease has ever been in this section.

13Dtf

**JOHN M. DAVIS, Spring Hill, Tenn.**

# Some Styles of Honey-Jars

Now is the time to make ready for Thanksgiving and Christmas trade. Honey at this time of year always sells best. Put up your Extracted Honey in one of the attractive Jars illustrated on this page, label it nicely, and you will be surprised at the ease you can sell it and the prices obtainable.

## HALF-POUND TUMBLERS



½-lb. Tumblers

There seems to be an increasing demand for a cheap tumbler to put up a half-pound of honey to retail at 10 cents. We have secured a stock of such tumblers at a price which enables us to offer them at \$4.50 per barrel of 32 dozen. This is less than 1½¢ apiece. For less than barrel lots we cannot repack them for less than 25¢ a dozen; or we will put them up 4 dozen to the case with partitions ready to re-ship when filled, at \$1 a case; 10-case lots at 95¢.

## TIP-TOP HONEY-JARS



Tip-Top Jars.

This is a new-style jar sealed with rubber ring under rim of a glass top held securely with spring-top fastener. This fastener is applied to a great variety of bottles and jars used for different purposes. We have selected two styles among them all as being the most suitable for honey. The one and two pound square jars may be had with spring top fastening instead of cork at 75¢ per gross extra. We can furnish in two sizes.

½-pound, 45¢ per doz.; gross, \$4.50.  
1-pound, 50¢ per doz.; gross, \$5.

## HERSHISER JARS

These jars were designed for use in the honey exhibit at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, and are very neat and attractive. They have cork-lined aluminum caps which seal them tight. They are made in 4 sizes square and 3 sizes round. Write us for complete prices on this style of jars.

## NO. 25 JARS

The illustration to the side does not do justice to this jar. It must be seen to be fully appreciated. We have sold this jar for years and in larger quantities than any other. It is really our standard, and the demand for it is unflagging. Packed in re-shipping cases of 2 dozen each. We are now prepared to offer No. 25 jars in partitioned cases of 2 dozen each, ready to re-ship, when filled, at \$1 per case; 10-case lots or over, 95¢; 50-case lots at 90¢.



Hershiser Jar.

## MASON FRUIT-JARS

These are very largely used for canning fruit, and are often used for honey as well. As we buy them by the car-load, we can make the following prices at Medina, all put up complete with porcelain-lined caps and rubbers, in cases of one dozen:

Size	Doz.	6 doz.	12 doz.
Pint	\$0.52	\$3.00	\$5.75
Quart	0.55	3.10	6.00
½-gal.	0.75	4.10	8.00

Triumph Wrench for Mason Caps, 15¢ each; by mail, 20¢. Ball's Waxed Rings, better than rubbers, 5¢ dozen; postage, 3¢.

## LABELS

Don't fail to label your bottles and cans of honey. A good label is a profitable advertising instrument. Don't make the mistake of using a poor label. We are properly equipped to turn out the best work in the shortest time at lowest prices. Write for our label catalog showing 50 styles. We can make special labels for large orders.



No. 25 Jar.

Write Nearest Branch or Agent for Catalog.

**Alabama**  
\* Wetumpka..... J. M. Jenkins  
**Canada**  
Toronto..... E. Grainger & Co.  
**California**  
\* Fresno..... Madary Planing Mill  
\* Los Angeles..... California National  
Honey-Producers' Association  
**Colorado**  
Denver..... The L. A. Watkins Mdse. Co.  
Fruita..... Fruita Fruit and Produce Ass'n  
**District of Columbia**  
Washington..... The A. I. Root Co.  
**Georgia**  
Savannah..... Howkins & Rush  
124 Liberty St.  
**Illinois**  
Chicago..... The A. I. Root Co.  
144 East Erie Street.  
**Indiana**  
Indianapolis..... Walter S. Pouder  
Evansville..... Vickery Bros.  
**Iowa**  
Des Moines..... Joseph Nysewander  
**Kansas**  
Augusta..... Carl F. Buck

**Mississippi**  
Brazelia..... George A. Hammer  
**Massachusetts**  
Boston..... H. H. Jepson, 182 Friend Street  
Lyonsville..... W. W. Cary & Son  
**Maine**  
Mechanic Falls..... The A. I. Root Co.  
**Maryland**  
Baltimore..... Rawlins Implement Co.  
**Michigan**  
Bell Branch..... M. H. Hunt & Son  
Fremont..... George E. Hilton  
**Minnesota**  
St. Paul..... The A. I. Root Co.  
1024 Mississippi Street.  
**Missouri**  
High Hill..... Jno. Nebel & Son Supply Co.  
Springfield..... Springfield Seed Co.  
St. Louis..... Blanke & Hawk  
**New Mexico**  
Carlsbad..... Edward Scoggins  
**New York**  
Syracuse..... The A. I. Root Co.  
New York City..... The A. I. Root Co.  
44 Vesey Street.

**Ohio**  
Columbus Grove..... McAdams Seed Co.  
Toledo..... Griggs Bros., 521 Monroe St.  
Zanesville..... E. W. Pierce  
Cincinnati..... C. H. W. Weber  
2146 Central Avenue  
**Oregon**  
Portland..... Portland Seed Co.  
**Pennsylvania**  
Du Bois..... Prothero & Arnold  
Philadelphia..... The A. I. Root Co.  
10 Vine Street  
Williamsport..... E. E. Pressler  
633 Lycoming Street  
**Texas**  
Dallas..... Texas Seed and Floral Co.  
San Antonio..... Udo Toppferwein  
Uvalde..... D. M. Edwards  
**Utah**  
Ogden..... The Superior Honey Co.  
**Virginia**  
Spottswood..... W. E. Tribbett

\* These dealers buy our goods in carload lots but supplement them with local-made goods.

THE A. I. ROOT CO., Medina, Ohio





(Entered at the Post-Office at Chicago as Second-Class Mail-Matter.)

Published Weekly at \$1.00 a Year, by George W. York & Co., 334 Dearborn Street.

GEORGE W. YORK, Editor

CHICAGO, ILL., NOVEMBER 8, 1906

Vol. XLVI—No. 45

## Editorial Notes and Comments

### The National at San Antonio

When the majority of its subscribers are reading this number of the American Bee Journal, the National Bee-Keepers' Association will be in session in San Antonio. It will be its first meeting in that part of our country. It is hoped that the great bee-keeping South will be well represented.

At the time of writing this, the special car of bee-keepers to start from Chicago is assured. There will be in it about the same number of persons as crossed the continent to attend the Los Angeles convention of the National in August, 1903. No doubt it will be a similarly happy and congenial company.

### Honey Definitions and Standard

The definitions and standard of honey approved by the United States Department of Agriculture, are as follows:

1. Honey is the nectar and saccharine exudations of plants gathered, modified, and stored in the comb by honey-bees (*Apis mellifica* and *A. dorsata*); is levorotatory, contains not more than twenty-five percent of water, not more than twenty-five hundredths percent of ash, and not more than eight percent of sucrose.

2. Comb honey is honey contained in the cells of comb.

3. Extracted honey is honey which has been separated from the uncrushed comb by centrifugal force or gravity.

4. Strained honey is honey removed from the crushed comb by straining or other means.

The following supplementary statement is also published, on account of honey-dew sometimes being gathered by the bees:

The standard does not in any way exclude small quantities of honey-dew from honey. We realize that bees often gather small quantities of honey-dew that can not be detected

in the finished product by chemical means and does not damage its quality. It is only when relatively large amounts are gathered that the quality of the honey is impaired, and it fails to meet the requirements of the standard. It is generally agreed that such a large amount of honey-dew is injurious to the quality of the product, which can not then be properly regarded as honey.

### Irish Bee Journal on the Superseding of Queens

On page 55, of the Irish Bee Journal, appears an editorial headed "Hypercriticism," in which Editor Digges refers to the first editorial on page 685 of this Journal, and says:

Our much esteemed contemporary appears to have taken a view of Mr. Maguire's article which, certainly, did not present itself to us. We think it unlikely that our readers generally gathered from the article that, as our contemporary states, "the novice is practically told that all successful bee-keepers destroy each queen when it becomes a year old."

Whatever view may have presented itself to Editor Digges, we must confess to being greatly puzzled, upon carefully studying again the extracts quoted on page 685, to get any other view from them than the one already expressed, namely, that the right thing is to replace every queen when a year old. Read again that sentence, "But, although, the matter is strongly urged in bee-guides and bee-journals, few amateurs seem to have grasped the full significance of having every season, a young queen of the previous year's rearing, to head each colony." If each colony is to have every season a young queen of the previous year's rearing, how can that possibly be accomplished unless every queen is destroyed when it becomes a year old?

The editor suggests, however, that excep-

tions to rules are generally understood, saying:

When Mr. Maguire wrote, "Experienced bee-keepers know the importance of requeening their colonies every year," it is not to be supposed that he intended to imply that every colony should be requeened every year, regardless of the usefulness of the reigning queen. If one were to say, "Experienced bee-keepers know the advantage of clipping their queens every spring," we should expect even the novice to understand that only queens that required clipping were referred to.

It must be confessed that it is not so very clear how that helps out with the puzzle. Of course, one would not clip a queen whose wings have already been removed, but, all the same, the bee-keeper who practises clipping allows no queen to enter the season of the harvest with whole wings. Neither would the bee-keeper be likely to supersede a queen where the bees had already anticipated him.

Let us, however, frankly accept that exceptions should be allowed, and that the statement of Mr. Maguire does not preclude a longer lease of life than one year for queens of unusual merit; that still leaves the general rule. Evidently, however, the Irish Bee Journal understands something else than yearly superseding to be taught. In response to the request for authorities, it gives specific quotations from six.

Langstroth is quoted as saying: "The fecundity of the queen-bee ordinarily diminishes after she has entered her third year."

Simmins, in his "A Modern Bee-Farm," says: "I assert as a fact that to enable one to keep his stock generally in the highest state of efficiency, he must retain no queens that have seen their second summer. Take a queen reared even so late as August; she will be in full profit the following season; keep her till another season and her colony will be hardly second-rate."

Cheshire says there is reason for superseding a queen at the end of her second year of work.

Sladen says queens are often worn out in 3 years.

"The Irish Bee-Guide," a book written by Editor Digges himself, which has had high words of praise, says: "After her second year a queen ceases to be profitable."

Doolittle says: "If we are using a system

## American Bee Journal

of strenuous work.....then there is some propriety in the argument that a queen may not prove good longer than 2 years."

This Journal is in entire accord with its Irish contemporary in considering the foregoing a fair presentation of the general teaching on the subject. It will be noted that Mr. Simmins is the only one who limits the work of the queen to a single year. Mr. Sladen

allows her 3; all the others 2.

The Irish Bee Journal thinks that Mr. Maguire's statement, "rightly understood," is supported by these authorities. The puzzle still remains with us to understand how, with the one exception, they can possibly support the "having, every season, a young queen of the previous year's rearing, to head each colony."

and drones had been hatched at Albertville, and the purpose was to take them where the mating would undoubtedly be pure, since there are no bees so high in the mountain. A part of the trip had to be accomplished on mule-back, and for that purpose the hives were fastened together in pairs. The rearing of queens and drones beforehand was done in order to gain time. But the cool and damp temperature of the mountain height rendered the queens and drones apathetic, and great difficulty was encountered in getting them to mate. After 5 days 5 queens out of 20 were missing—apparently lost on their wedding-trip. Only 3 out of the 20 virgin queens hatched in the plains were fertilized. The others were lost.

After that the hatching of queens and drones took place at the apiary, and the success was better. It would seem that the queens and drones hatched at that high altitude were more vigorous and hardy than those hatched at a lower altitude. Eleven out of the first 13 queens were successful, and became fertile.

The breeding was continued during July and August, when the colonies began to kill their drones in spite of feeding and queenlessness. In September the apiary was moved back to the plain.

Mr. Mont-Jovet is of the opinion that the rearing at high latitude makes the queens and bees more rustic. This matter is worthy of more experiment. C. P. DADANT.

Mr. C. Hostettler and Wife, of Rollingsstone, Minn., called at this office last week. Mr. H. reports keeping from 50 to 80 colonies of bees, and this year, although a poor honey season, his crop was something like 8000 pounds. He found no difficulty in disposing of it at a good price.

**An Apiarian Display and Bee-Study** was held in one of the Chicago day-schools early in October. Through the courtesy of Mr. Arnd, of the York Honey and Bee-Supply Co., there were shown a hive, veil, gloves, smoker, and other things along the bee-supply line. There was a program given by several departments of the school, which included 3 bee-songs and recitations about bees, etc. One of the teachers gave a talk on bees and their work. It is reported that the audience, which was composed of the school-children and their parents, was greatly interested. Of course, it would be more entertaining if live bees could also form a part of the display. This might be done in the spring or in September. There is scarcely any other subject, aside from bee-keeping, that is of so great interest to children as well as their elders. Besides affording educational profit, it should also lead to a larger use of honey in the homes of the children. In the case referred to above, a number of the school-children wrote letters to Mr. and Mrs. Arnd, telling about the event, and also thanking them for furnishing the articles that helped to make up the display.

**Apiarian Photographs.**—We can use more pictures of apiaries or of other things of interest to bee-keepers. If you have any that you think the readers of the American Bee Journal would like to see, kindly send them to us, and we will report if suitable for engraving for reproduction, when you can furnish some descriptive matter to accompany them when printed. After using we will return the original photographs, if desired.

## Miscellaneous News - Items

**Dr. E. F. Phillips**, Acting in Charge of Apiculture, at Washington, D. C., was married Oct. 27, to Mary H. Geisler, in Philadelphia. They will be at home after Jan. 1, at "The Nansemond," 22d and N St., N. W., Washington, D. C. Our heartiest congratulations are extended to Dr. and Mrs. Phillips.

**L'Apicoltore**—the oldest of the Italian bee-papers, over 38 years old—is very progressive, and often quotes from American writers on bee-keeping. We have just received a request from a Dr. Triaca, for permission to translate Doolittle's "Scientific Queen-Rearing" into Italian for publication in instalments in L'Apicoltore. This is a compliment, not only to Mr. Doolittle, but to American bee-literature as well.

**Dr. C. C. Miller's Report** for the season of 1906, is summed up in these few words, in reply to a question:

Yes, we got a very few sections—don't know just how many, but not worth mentioning. But we'll have a good stock of sealed combs for next spring, and the hives will be heavy for winter. C. C. MILLER.

Marengo, Ill.

That's rather discouraging for a specialist bee-keeper. He'll have to draw somewhat heavily on the bee-keepers' "Bank of Hope" until another season. But there are those who feel certain that 1907 will be a great honey-year. "So may it be!"

**Patterson Bros. in an Apiary.**—When sending the picture appearing on the first page, Mr. Robinson wrote as follows:

Mr. YORK:—I enclose a photograph of a part of one of my apiaries with two United States soldiers in the foreground—Patterson brothers. Joe E. Patterson, who stands at the left, served in the Spanish-American war in Cuba, served through the Boxer Insurrection in China, and served over 4 years in the Philippine Islands. His rank is First Corporal. On one occasion while acting as scout in the Philippine Islands, being alone, he shot and killed 7 natives without moving out of his tracks. On another occasion (in a battle this time) the American side run short of ammunition, and were forced to repel the bolo attack with sword and bayonet. On this occasion Mr. P. had all the wood chopped off

his army gun. In speaking of the affair, he said, "It was a little scary about then."

He was engaged in 22 battles and innumerable skirmishes, serving the army 9 years, and received only a slight flesh-wound in the arm. Last week he resigned his commission as an army officer, received an honorable discharge, and will now try the life of a private citizen. He is very much interested in bees, and expects to engage in this work before a great while. T. P. ROBINSON.

**Mr. Morley Pettit**, of Canada, has been compelled to stand suit for the loss of 2 horses from stinging of bees. The verdict awarded was \$400 damages as the value of the team. The case was appealed, but it seems the higher court upheld the original verdict. It seems that on Aug. 10, 1905, Freeman Lucas led his team into an oat-field which was across the road and at a safe distance from one of Mr. Pettit's bee-yards. His intention was to cut the oats. He went back to close the gate, and when he got to the horses he found a cloud of bees around them, and stinging them. He attempted to drive the bees away with his hat, and was stung himself, so that he ran away and rolled in some mud, and then went home. The horses both died. The indications were that the swarm had clustered in the oats, and that the horses had gone into them and stirred them up. Local prejudice against bees, and sympathy, influenced the jury so that they saddled \$400 and costs on Mr. Pettit. Messrs. E. D. Townsend, W. F. Marks, R. F. Holtermann, F. J. Miller, R. H. Smith, Edwin Trinder, Jas. Armstrong, Dr. Burt, and a number of other bee-men were kind enough to attend the trial, and the National Bee-Keepers' Association also helped Mr. Pettit in the cost of the appeal, as he evidently was keeping his bees in a perfectly legitimate and proper manner.

**The St. Bernard Apiary** shown on the first page, is thus described by Mr. Dadant:

MR. EDITOR:—I send a photograph of a queen-rearing apiary established in the Alps, at an altitude of 6560 feet, for the rearing of Caucasians, by Mr. Mont-Jovet, of Savoie.

Mr. Mont-Jovet writes me quite a long letter, in which he informs me of some of his experiences. The apiary in question was taken from Albertville, on the plains of the river Isere, to the mountain of Petit St. Bernard, on July 1, 1906. A number of queens





## No. 20—Dadant Methods of Honey-Production

BY C. P. DADANT

MR. C. P. DADANT:—While traveling among the New York State bee-keepers this summer, I found a tendency among a lot of them to go to big hives. Some had adopted hives with 14 Langstroth frames in the brood-chamber; also using an extracting super the same depth with 14 frames. They claimed that these big hives were best for out-apiaries—no swarming, etc.

I have become a convert to the big hive, but I am in doubt concerning a few things, and as you and your respected father had a large experience in such matters, I would appreciate it if you would advise me on the following points:

1. Would it not be best for me to adopt the Jumbo hive, with its deep frame, rather than a hive with 14 frames of Langstroth regular depth? I believe the deeper Jumbo frame makes the queen lay better than 14 frames spread out so shallow. Am I right?

2. In using an extracting super, Dr. Phillips says if he adopted a Jumbo brood-chamber he would also use a Jumbo body and frames for an extracting super, as he would not be bothered by two different sized frames in his apiary. I notice you use a frame for extracting that is shallower than your brood-frames. Now, would you advise me to use a Jumbo body and frame for extracting super?

We can get from 100 to 130 pounds of extracted honey per colony here, and I think the Jumbo super wouldn't be too large, especially if the Jumbo brood-chamber were full of bees. I don't want to have two kinds of frames in a hive if I can avoid it.—D. E. L., Sept. 26, 1906.

Replying to the above enquiries, I wish to say that we long ago made a thorough trial of both deep and shallow frames for extracting. We had at one time something like 110 regular 10-frame Langstroth hives occupied with bees, and we considered that it might pay to use double stories. We had already, for years, used the 6½-inch super with a frame having a side-bar 6 inches deep. We made 60 or 80 full-depth supers, but after a few years of trial we discarded them. Mind, these were of Langstroth depth, consequently more shallow than our large frames of Quirby size. The main objection to these frames was that the super gave too much of an increase of space at once, and caused too much loss of heat in cool seasons, when compared with the shallow supers.

It sometimes happened that supers were needed in May. At that time the nights are cool, and a shallow super does not cause the deperdition of heat that a deep super makes. The bees are slow to go into a deep super, very probably for that same reason. But when they go into the super they are much more likely to draw the queen to it with them. The frame being of the same size as that of the lower depart-

ment, there is more of a tendency for her to lay in the super. It is certainly for this reason that many extracted-honey producers find it necessary to place an excluding honey-board between the two stories. Excluding honey-boards are unnecessary with our management, and I have a dislike for them because of the trouble they cause when glued fast by the bees. It is quite probable that there are not many places where propolis is as plentiful as it is here, for our bees literally fill all the cracks and crevices with it at times when there is no crop. It seems as if their leisure hours in the dry summer time were all employed in gathering propolis. This is added to from year to year. It is not objectionable in ordinary management with plain hives, but honey-boards are usually so glued that they are difficult to handle without damaging them, and the bees sometimes even stop up some of the holes in a zinc excluding-board with this sticky substance. We find that with the shallow super, such as we use, the bees take possession more readily, and place honey more evenly through it, leaving but little room for the queen to lay; and as she naturally prefers deep combs, she remains downstairs more willingly. It is only when she is short of drone-comb, and there happens to be drone-comb in the super, that she is readily induced to move up to it. On the other hand, we found that when we gave a full-depth super the bees often filled only a part of the depth with honey, and the queen was more readily induced to move up and stay there.

There are some other advantages to the shallow super. One of them is the ease with which the comb may be uncapped. The honey-knife will uncup a 6-inch comb with only one stroke. The combs are less likely to break when extracted, if they are of new construction and heavy. A deep comb, especially in Quirby size, is quite fragile when new and heavily laden.

Another reason for our preference, is that a deep super is of great weight. Our 6½-inch supers usually weigh over 50 pounds each when full. They are sufficiently cumbersome, and we do not wish anything deeper. The shallow combs are also more readily cleaned of bees.

Taking it all in all, we can not see that there is any advantage to deep supers, but we see several disadvantages which seemed very weighty to us in actual trial.

On the other hand, the reader will bear in mind that we are not in favor of an extracting super as shallow as the 4¼-section super. A much greater crop may be expected when running for extracted honey, and supers that

would give satisfaction in producing comb honey are entirely inadequate for the harvesting of extracted honey.

The only possible use to which super combs may be put is the feeding of destitute colonies, and in that case only would deep combs be serviceable. But with our large hives there are always enough spare combs in the lower story of very heavy colonies to feed the destitute ones. In years of scarcity feeding has to be done in the ordinary way, with liquid food in a feeder.

We certainly think the "Jumbo" a good hive for the production of extracted honey, and much prefer it to the shallow Langstroth; but we recommend with it the use of shallow supers, additional stories of these supers to be given as occasion requires. Hamilton, Ill.

## Testing Swarms Before Hiving Them

BY C. W. DAYTON

I would remind those who are so often expressing the wish that bees would not swarm, that the probability is that if bees would not swarm they would breed only enough to keep the colony intact—that is, enough bees would be reared to protect the queen and store only enough honey for the wants of the small colony. In other words, if they would not swarm they would not prepare for swarming. Like the dogs in Massachusetts, when shorn of their tails there became a race of dogs which neglected to grow tails. So when we call swarming "the bane of bee-keeping," we are not sure that it would not be a greater bane not to have swarms.

It appears reasonable to me that swarms and honey-gathering should go hand in hand, and, as one may not always balance the other, it is for the hand of man to render the due assistance or correction. Some colonies run too much force or quantity of bees, while others, which appear to be somewhat deficient in bees, turn out to be what we are pleased to call great rustlers for honey. The populous colony will get more honey than the other at a time when honey is plentiful and easy to get, but when there is a scarcity, the other colony may "hold their own" by far the best. At least that is the way we often find it in watching colonies one year with another. The breeding line is situated somewhere between the extremes of these characteristics, and it requires an accurate understanding of the particular locality in the matter of honey-producing flora to locate this most desirable line.

It will not be proper to give this matter of breeding our bees entirely over to breeders, lest we get a race of bees which are better fitted to producing queens than of providing stores for a time of scarcity; and this trait can not be developed except by work in the open fields. Of course, there always will be breeders who are conscientious, and will breed bees for the points of greatest utility in the hands of their customers rather than for their own immediate advantage. This will build up a substantial and

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confidential line of trade, and would, if closely followed, create an almost unlimited demand, because there would be unlimited confidence. But we must not forget that it furnishes an opening for unscrupulous breeders to step in and abuse the market. It would be the same with the breeding of bees as it is with the honey or fruit market. About as fast as the market is toned up by those who sell properly produced product, it is brought down by the careless and crafty. A great deal of the poor honey that is in the market is honey which has been bought up by dealers at a low price because of their taking a large quantity, then holding it in an unsuitable storage warehouse until the elements of Nature have divested it of its delicacy and freshness.

A particular strain of bees which are distinguishable because of their color, size, temperament, etc., when tested for actual utility may result in a waste of time and labor in their propagation. It would appear that a race of bees should be left largely to their own development except to weed out the poorest queens as they appear. Only Nature can make the improvements, and, therefore, Nature should be allowed as free a hand as is possible to give.

And that is what I claim for the swarming system described somewhat briefly on page 504—merely Nature's way. I doubt that it is the real nature of the bees to wish to depart for "the woods," except that the surplus of queens makes it appear to the bees as necessary. I could produce a long line of evidence to bear out this statement, and may do so at a more favorable time for it.

When the bees and queen are placed in a box and retained in the apiary, many of the bees will begin to desert and go back into the original hive again, and this is kept up, more or less, for several days, according to the agreeableness of the conditions which existed in the old hive from which the swarm embarked. If the old hive was crowded so that the bees were obliged to cluster outside, very few will return; but if there was plenty of inside space, a large portion may return. In determining the truth along this line, the laying capacity of the queen must be considered, because bees are loth to cast their lot with a queen which may soon fail. On several occasions I have known bees which clustered outside the hive for several days to swarm without queen-cells, and, farther than that, without a queen, and go a mile or more from the apiary, settle on a tree, and remain clustered there for days, until old age or starvation brought them to an end. Such circumstances would not occur with large hives.

Fifteen years ago contraction of hives was prevalent to secure more compact storage and more rapid finishing of the honey-combs. At present there is a wholesale movement toward an opposite extreme to prevent swarming, so that the business may be pursued and managed on broader lines. If the results of contraction were worth working for once, they must be of some value still.

There are few fruit-growers but that

will admit that the proper pruning of trees, thinning of the fruit, and enrichment of the soil, will improve the quality of the fruit. This is also a species of contraction. Yet I have known fruit-growers who would leave just as much of the fruit on, provide just the least enrichment of the soil, and bestow as little labor on pruning the trees as the market would admit of. One year the disposal of the fruit may be the result of clever bargaining or the personal bearing and importance of the seller, or a slight scarcity in the market may exist. This will encourage the producer to permit still more "expansion" methods of production. The producer and dealer obtained their profits in the first case, but the consumer was not quite satisfied. Although this dissatisfaction may not produce an audible sound, its effect is reflected back to one dealer and another, so that the producer comes up face against the results the following year, and may be compelled to haul his product home and deposit the same alongside the hog-pen.

When a swarm is hived and there is fear that it may not stay hived, it is customary to give it a frame of brood. Brood will cause the swarm to stay even though they have no queen at all—probably to care for and protect the brood. This is artificial, and not in accordance with Nature's way. The brood being the cause of the swarm's staying in the new hive and new location, we are deceived as to the real value of the queen; for if the queen is poor, and the bees are allowed their liberty, they will mostly return to the hive they came from. The only swarms that it is advisable to hive in a new location are those where the bees all stay. These are the swarms which do the best work—those that can not be induced or driven back to the old hive, and will stay "hived" on a fence-post if their queen is confined there.

Now, we arrive at the kernel of the matter: "The size of the first swarm is varied a great deal by the amount of reverence the bees possess for the old queen." This does not refer to the size of the swarm as it issues from the old hive. It refers to the number of bees that will stay after hiving, and

without brood or other inducement. It may have been an induced swarm through lack of ventilation, restriction of the queen's laying space, or an aged queen which should have been replaced the previous season. Then, again, swarms may be delayed by the sudden addition of room for brood or stores, ventilation of the hive, or unfavorable weather, and many beekeepers destroy the queen-cells one or more times. All these things tend to make swarms artificial and unnatural.

I have the following from a prominent Eastern bee-keeper: "A clustered or clustering swarm is not fussy as to the queen it has, as you know, as 'afterswarms' not infrequently have many virgin queens, and I have seen 'prime' swarms with the old and several young queens."

I have often seen the same. For several years I clipped queens. Several times I saw the old, clipped queen come out and hop about on the ground, until finding that she could not go with the swarm, turned to re-enter the same hive she came out of but a moment before. As soon as she approached the alighting-board she was seized, and although she moved lively to get past the guards, she became balled, and would have been killed had I not opened the hive and rescued her. And the cage I placed her in was balled for one or two days. Is that not somewhat "fussy?" It shows that the young queens which go with a "prime" swarm are not in their intended place, although the bees of the swarm would not object to the young queens. If the swarm is hived, however, and no brood put in, most of the bees would desert and return to the parent hive during the following few days. Such are not natural swarms, because the procedure is not in accordance with what Nature intended. It is two swarms in one.

After we find out a successful method for the treatment of natural swarms, by a slight variation we can manage the freaks. When there is less tampering with the colonies to prevent swarming, there will be less freaks. Freak swarms are apt to be more or less freakish in their work and call for freakish management, which is the complete annihilation of system.

Chatsworth, Calif.



Conducted by MORLEY PETTIT, Villa Nova, Ont.

## Retail Packages for Honey

At this time of year, and especially this year, almost any bee-keeper can dispose of his whole honey crop by retailing amongst his neighbors, or in

the nearest town. I have long been an advocate of the house-to-house canvass for selling. Dealers in other lines, such as tea and other groceries, medicines, etc., find it profitable, and honey-producers would do the same. Along comes J. L. Byer, in the Cana-



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dian Bee Journal, with the opinions of himself and E. G. Hand on the subject of packages. I quite agree with the idea of pushing large packages, in which the honey can granulate and be eaten in that way. Mr. Byer says:

Only a few days ago we had the pleasure of having Mr. E. G. Hand, of Fenelon Falls, spend a day with us. Among other things discussed at the "convention," the subject of retailing honey came in for due attention. As most of the readers of this journal are aware, Mr. Hand is a strenuous advocate of pushing the home market for all it is worth, and has in his own town and vicinity exemplified the fact that with a systematic plan of placing good honey before the public, much more honey will be consumed than is the case when ordinary, slipshod methods are followed.

While the experience of extensive retailers seems to prove conclusively that for the town trade it pays to put up honey in glass, yet to the writer's mind it seems doubtful whether this is true as regards the country and village trade. For example, in a village near us of 1200 population, last year, over 2000 pounds of honey was sold in packages of 10 and 5 pound pails. To my knowledge not a single pound was sold in glass, and I can hardly think that so much honey would have been sold had all been put up in 1-pound packages.

On the other hand, it might be argued that some who would pay 15 cents for a single pound would never think of investing 50 cents at one time for a 5-pound pail. In fact, Mr. Hand said he knew of one family who annually bought over 150 pound-bottles, who would never think of buying a 5-pound pail at one time. Personally, I feel inclined to think that if there were no pound packages in sight, more than likely the same family would buy 5-pound pails, and incidentally come to the conclusion that it was much the cheaper way of buying honey.

From the producer's standpoint there is not half as much work in selling honey in pails as there is in putting it up in glass, and in the case of the pails being used the consumers become educated to the use of honey in the granulated form, and it is surprising how many become partial to honey in that condition.

All things considered, while I would not discourage any way of increasing the sale of honey, yet, in my trade, after taking into consideration the demand in my own locality, I feel a bit slow about investing in glass as long as I can sell in tin packages as readily as in the past.

## Honey-Judging Contests

A splendid suggestion for bee-keepers' conventions, and even for fall fairs, in sections where bees are largely kept, comes from R. F. Holtermann, in *Gleanings in Bee Culture*—that is, to have a judging contest. He says:

"Let, say six, samples each of clover, linden and buckwheat honey be taken. Let these be judged by points and score card, and the same be filled out by those competing; then let the same be changed about and judged again, and the prizes be given for those doing the most accurate and correct judging, giving reasons for the decision. An hour or two of the convention time taken up in this way would be an educator of value."

## Getting Bees Off Combs

Some one writing in the *Maritime Farmer*, advises simply taking extracting supers, bees and all, into the honey-house to allow the bees to fly to the screen-door and be released. What a terrible mess of clustering bees that

would make, and where 3000 to 5000 pounds of honey is to be extracted daily for a couple of weeks, is entirely out of the question. With two work-

ing at a hive, with a good smoker and brushes, the bees can be shaken and brushed off the combs before the robber-bees have much chance.



Conducted by EMMA M. WILSON, Marengo, Ill.

## Why Women Should Keep Bees

On page 865 were arrayed the possible reasons why women should not keep bees. After having thus presented them, the writer, Mrs. Anna B. Comstock, proceeds thus in *Gleanings* to present the other side of the question:

Thus having disposed of all the reasons I can think of why women shouldn't keep bees, I turn gladly to the more interesting reasons of why she should look upon the apiary as one of her legitimate fields of labor. There are so many reasons for this that I could not enumerate them even if a complete number of "Bee Gleanings" were given me for the purpose. So I shall speak of just a few of the more cogent reasons. I should put first of all, and as embracing all other reasons, that bee-keeping may be an interesting avocation which may be carried on coincidentally with other employment; it is an interesting study in natural history; it cultivates calmness in spirit; self-control and patience; it is "a heap" of fun; incidentally it may supply the home table with a real luxury; and it may add a very considerable amount to the woman's spending money. It also may be carried on as a regular business, and be made to support a family.

But it is as an avocation that I am especially interested in the apiary. Any woman who keeps house needs an avocation which shall take her mind and attention completely off her household cares at times. There is something about the daily routine of house-keeping that wears the mind and body full of ruts, even in the case of those who love to do housework better than anything else. Talk about the servant question! It is not the servant question; it is the housework question. If some means could be devised by which housework could be performed with inspiration, zeal, and enthusiasm, the servant problem would solve itself; but this ideal way of doing housework can be carried on only when the spirit is freed from the sense of eternal drudgery. I am not a wizard to bring about this change; but I know one step toward it, and that is the establishment of some permanent interest for women that will pull her out of the ruts and give her body and mind a complete change and rest. Embroidery, lacemaking, weaving, painting, and several other like occupations, may serve this purpose in a measure, and perhaps if carried on in the right way might achieve more in this line than they do at present. But these are all indoor occupations; and what a woman needs is something to take her out-of-doors where she can have fresh air. The excess perspiration induced by the cook-stove is weakening; but the honest sweat called forth in the open air by an application of generous sunshine, is a source of health and strength.

Bee-keeping is one of the best of these life-saving, nerve-healing avocations; it takes the mind from household cares as completely as

would a trip to Europe, for one can not work with bees and think of anything else. Some of the attributes which make bee-keeping an interesting avocation I will mention: First of all, the bees are such wonderful little creatures, and so far beyond our comprehension, that they have for us always the fascination of an unsolved problem. I never pass our hives without mentally asking, "Well, you dear little rascals, what will you do next?" The bees are of particular interest to woman for several reasons: If she likes good house-keeping, then the bee is a model; if she likes a woman of business, again is the bee a shining light; if she is interested in the care of the young, then is the bee-nurse an example of perfection; if she believes in the political rights of woman, she will find the highest feminine political wisdom in the constitution of the bee-commune. In fact, it is only as a wife that the bee is a little too casual to pose as an ideal, although as a widow she is certainly remarkable, and perhaps even notorious.

Another phase which makes bee-keeping a pleasing avocation for women, is that much of the work is interesting and attractive. I never sit down to the "job" of folding sections and putting in starters without experiencing joy at the prettiness of the work. And if there is any higher artistic happiness than comes from cleaning up a section holding a pound of well-capped amber honey and putting the same in a dainty carton for market, then I have never experienced it; and the making of pictures has been one of my regular vocations. By the way, woman has never used her artistic talent rightly in this matter of cartons. Each woman bee-keeper ought to make her own color design for her carton, thus securing something so individual and attractive as to catch at once the eye of the consumer.

As a means of cultivating calmness, patience and self-control, the bee is a well-recognized factor. Bees can be, and often are, profoundly exasperating, and yet how worse than futile it is to evince that exasperation by word or movement. No creature reacts quicker against irritation than does the bee. She can not be kicked nor spanked; and if we smoke her too much, we ourselves are the losers. There is only one way to manage exasperation with bees, and that is to control it, and this makes the apiary a means of grace.

The money-making side of bee-keeping is a very important phase in arousing and continuing the woman's interest in her work. I think woman is by birth and training a natural gambler, and the uncertainties of the nectar supply, and of the honey market, add to rather than detract from her interest in her apiary. I know of several women who have made comfortable incomes and supported their families by bee-keeping; but, as yet, I think such instances are few. However, I believe there are a large number of women who have added a goodly sum yearly to their amount of spending money, and have found the work a joy instead of drudgery. Personally, I have had very little experience with

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the commercial side of bee-keeping. Once when our maddeningly successful apiary grew to 40 hives when we did not want more than a dozen at most, and the neighborhood was surfeited with our bounty, we were "just naturally" obliged to sell honey. We enjoyed greatly getting the product ready for market, and were somewhat surprised that so much fun could be turned into ready cash. As a matter of fact, both my husband and myself have absorbing vocations and avocations in plenty, so that our sole reason for keeping bees is just because we love the little creatures, and find them so interesting that we

would not feel that home was really home without them; the sight of our busy little co-workers adds daily to our psychic income. We are so very busy that we have very little time to spend with them, and we have finally formulated our ideals for our own bee-keeping, and that is to keep bees for honey and for "fun." We shall have plenty of honey for our own table, and just enough to bestow on the neighbors so they will not get tired of it; and fun enough to season life with an out-of-doors interest, and the feeling that no summer day is likely to pass without a surprise.

ANNA B. COMSTOCK.

that field; and among all the other pursuits he would yet choose bee-keeping as the one best suited to his taste, and in conformity to his disposition and temperament.

During his first years of bee-keeping he kept well within the beaten track, but that was not his disposition. He soon began to branch out and try things that the wise ones said could not be done, and were all wrong, but he has ever had a contempt for all things orthodox; not that some of these things are not true and all right, but the term implies "fogyism;" at least it seems that way to him. One of the first things he found out through experimenting, was that the "standard hive," so-called, did not suit his ideas or method of working. This led him to further experimenting, with the result that he finally adopted his present hive, 16½ inches long, 14½ wide, and 8 deep. He has now been using this hive for over 5 years, and finds it all he desires. But were he to start over again, he would make a change in the frames to the Hoffman, which he considers the best made at the present time; but he knows of a frame that would suit his style of manipulation better.

During the last 5 years he has used the Carniolan bees in all his honey-yards. He considers them the best, all things considered. The imported stock, or home-bred queens from the imported, are the ones he has found to average the greatest yields of honey. The swarming disposition is the only drawback, but that does not give him as much uneasiness as it formerly did. His non-swarming device has effectually done away with all that trouble, and he is now able to control all swarming and keep the full force together. During the present year he has used it on a number of colonies with the most gratifying success, requeening and keeping down all swarming with the utmost certainty and ease.

Since starting in bee-keeping he has bought over \$800 worth of the best factory-made white-pine hives, and now owns nearly 300 colonies of bees and 200 nuclei, with extracting houses and all necessary supplies, together with his home, valued at \$1000—in all, over \$3000 worth of stuff. During all the time he has been thus engaged he has never worked at anything else, or for any one else, and what little he has accomplished has been done with the help of the little bees.

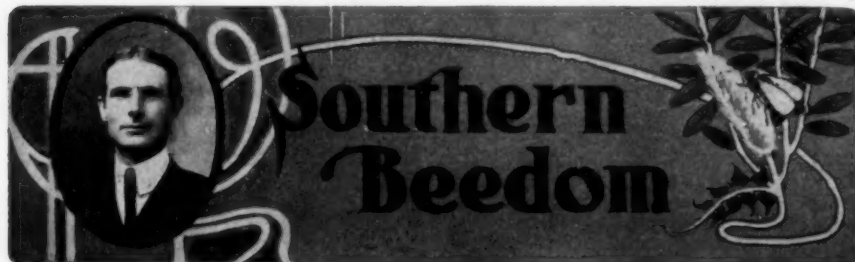
A FRIEND.

It was somewhat difficult to obtain a photograph of Mr. Chambers, but after insisting upon it, the picture of himself and his young helpers came with the letter below, from which it will be seen that Mr. Chambers is a modest man, such as generally attend to their own business. His cell-building arrangement and non-swarming management have been mentioned in some of the bee-papers, and we hope that Mr. Chambers will find time to prepare several articles for us soon, which he has promised to do. He has several items of interest which will be given from time to time later. Here is the letter:

FRIEND SCHOLL:—Your letter is received. I regret that I did not get it sooner; however, I have no recent photograph of myself, but to satisfy you I will have some taken, and will send one. I have always had a distaste against having many of these things struck off.

I expect to be in San Antonio during the meeting of the National Association, Nov. 8, 9, and 10.

Bees did well for me the past season, many nuclei of 6 and 8 combs building up to full colonies, and giving a surplus of 50 pounds of fine white honey during the 14 days of sumac flow. These were Carniolans, daughters of imported queens. I have never been able to accomplish such results with any other race of bees. Do you wonder that I am partial to this great race. Full colonies stored over 6 supers of 30 pounds each to the colony. The past year has been bad for swarming, but I



Conducted by LOUIS H. SCHOLL, New Braunsfels, Tex.

BUSY THE BEE-MAN in his cozy-kept shop,

Where he whiles away his lazy hours;

Meal-bells may sound, but no time to stop,

But prepare for the yield from Nature's flowers;

And be gathered by his pets from glen and field—

During another season's bountiful yield.

## Preparations for Next Season

These should begin early—as soon as the present season's crop is off. First, the bees should be put in trim for winter, and here is where many bee-keepers stop. But keep on! Get your next year's supplies; secure the usual early-order discounts; use your idle moments during fall and winter, and nail them up ready for next year. You'll make a double gain—get the discounts, and get the honey when it comes.

## Bulk Comb Honey

This is now the chief product of Texas apiaries, and the demand far exceeds the supply each year; while extracted honey goes begging. It is no trick to sell bulk comb honey, and the price obtained is from 3 to 4 cents more than for extracted. A third of the contents of the cans packed with this comb honey is extracted, hence it must be remembered that comb-honey prices are obtained for it, or if the original price of the extracted honey is subtracted, a much higher price is obtained for the comb honey.

Bulk comb has proven the most profitable in the South.

## Mr. J. E. Chambers

Mr. J. E. Chambers, of Concho Co., Tex., owned his first bees in Bee County in 1888, and, although he knew nothing of practical bee-keeping, he was much interested in bees. In 1895 he began modern bee-keeping, and in partnership with Mr. Mann, of Menardville, owned some 80 colonies. That year proving

a poor one, he was compelled to sell his interest; but he had been too thoroughly inculcated with bee-fever for it to be easily eradicated, and in 1898 he began bee-keeping again. He had no means to start on, but most thoroughly believed in the saying, "Where there's a will there's a way." During that year he cut 30 bee-trees in the woods and brought the bees home. He was not able to buy hives or fixtures, but, "Necessity is the mother of invention," and lots of other things, so he made his own hives and frames, and took, during the following year, \$260



J. E. CHAMBERS AND HELPERS

worth of honey. From that beginning to this day he has devoted all his attention to bees, not trying to do anything else, and he has studied it with that mystical exaltation that forgets itself in the pursuit. His enthusiasm has never waned in the least, and he can yet work from morning till night without realizing the flight of time. If he could have had an education, he would perhaps have been a journalist, but without that very necessary equipment, he could not hope to succeed in



# American Bee Journal

have not had any more trouble with the Carniolans than with other races. I have gotten past the fear of swarming.

I have just about finished taking off my

honey. The crop is light—about 17,000 pounds from over 275 colonies, spring count. I now have over 400 colonies, all in excellent condition for winter. J. E. CHAMBERS.



Send Questions either to the office of the American Bee Journal, or to  
Dr. C. C. MILLER, Marengo, Ill.  
Dr. Miller does not answer Questions by mail.

## Sugar Syrup for Winter Stores

Will bees live on sugar syrup through the winter without any bee-bread? If not, what can be given to them as a substitute for bee-bread? My bees have no honey and no bee-bread, and I want to save them if there is any chance.

MISSOURI.

ANSWER.—Yes, bees will winter all right on sugar syrup without any pollen; and some advise wintering thus. They will not rear young bees in the spring, however, without pollen. But the likelihood is that they have enough pollen with which to make a beginning in spring, and they begin bringing in pollen very early. In case you think they need a substitute for pollen in the spring, you can feed ground grain of almost any kind. Some springs I have fed several bushels of corn and oats ground together. Set it in a sunny place on days when bees are flying. But you can't get them to take it if they can get natural pollen.

## Best Handling of Unfinished Sections

The close of that portion of our honey season in which bees store marketable honey, found in my yard quite a number of unfinished sections. I simply put them back and they are now well filled, but with honey that is unfit for use. I wish to pursue that course which will give my bees the greatest advantage from this honey. Should I leave the supers containing these sections on through the winter? If not, how shall I keep the honey in sections taken off? I wish to handle the sections in such a way as not to lose them. How shall I do this?

TEXAS.

ANSWER.—So far as the bees are concerned, it might be all right to leave the sections just where they are. But it would be rough on the sections if you are to make any future use of them, as I understand you intend. You can extract the honey from the sections, letting the bees clean them up afterward, and then feed the honey back to the bees, but it is a fussy job to extract from sections. An easier way is to take the sections off and let the bees rob out all the honey. The danger in that case is that the bees will tear to pieces the combs in the sections. There are two ways to avoid this. One is to give the bees such full chance that they will not want to tear them, spreading out the supers of sections so that all the bees can get at all parts easily. But to do this there must be a sufficient number of sections in proportion to the number of bees. If you set out a single super for 100 colonies, you will be likely to find the comb chewed up into little bits. If there is a super for each colony, and each super fully exposed, there will be little danger. I don't know just where to draw the line, but proba-

bly if you have a super for each 2 or 3 colonies there will be little or no tearing.

The other way is to go to the other extreme, and allow very few bees at a time to get at the sections; and this is the better way where the number of sections is small compared with the number of bees. Farther north it might not work so late as this, but as you are in latitude about 31 degrees, the bees will have plenty of warm days for it. Pile the supers in piles, allowing an opening at bottom, and also at top, so that only one bee can pass at a time. If there are enough supers in the pile, allow another entrance for about each 5 supers, by pushing a super to one side enough to make a small entrance at one corner.

## Making Queen or Royal Jelly

How can I make queen jelly? If I can not make it myself where can I get it?

MASSACHUSETTS.

ANSWER.—You can't make queen jelly, or as it is generally called, royal jelly. Neither can any other man, not even President Roosevelt. I never knew of any being offered for sale, but you can easily get the bees to make it for you. Take the queen away from a colony next summer, and the bees will start to rear several young queens in queen-cells that you will easily distinguish as being larger than the other cells. In these queen-cells they will put quite a quantity of food for the young queens. In each cell there may be as much as the size of a pea or more. It is of the consistency of cream, varying from the thinnest to the thickest of cream as time advances, and when a young queen emerges from the cell there is generally left at the bottom of the cell a surplus of food that has dried down to the consistency of thick jelly. But the only way you can get this royal jelly is to get the bees to make it.

## Wintering Bees in a Cave or Cellar—Spring Introduction of Queens

1. Is it safe or proper to put bees in a cave or outdoor cellar where I have a few potatoes?

2. Is it better to leave them on the bee-bench and cover with a large box? I think they have plenty of honey to winter on. I would like to winter them, as there are not many bees in this county.

3. What is the best time in the spring to introduce Italian queens?

NEBRASKA.

ANSWERS.—1 and 2. As you are in about latitude 42 north, it will most likely be better to winter your bees inside, although in a sheltered place they might do very well covered as you mention. Potatoes in the cellar would not be likely to do any harm unless a

lot of them were rotten, and of course that ought not to be allowed for other reasons. In a cellar warm enough to keep potatoes without freezing, as few as 2 colonies ought not to do very badly. You speak of a cave, and if it is fairly dry, and sufficiently underground so that the temperature is fairly even, at somewhere in the neighborhood of 45 degrees, it ought to answer. Between that and the cellar, the question will very likely be as to which is warmer.

3. That depends somewhat upon circumstances. To introduce a queen early in the season is likely to interfere with the strength of the colony more than if the introduction occurs toward the close of the harvest; and, besides, queens cost more very early. On the other hand, if you want to breed from your new stock, you would gain in time by getting a queen early. So, in your case, it may be better to get a queen as early as you can in June.

## Shipping Bees by Freight

Do you consider it safe to ship bees by freight at this time, or a little later, from Illinois or Ohio? Do you know what the railroads charge per hundred weight?

MASSACHUSETTS.

ANSWER.—There is no better time to ship bees in the year, unless it should be when the temperature is about the same in the spring, for in the spring the combs are not so heavy with honey. On the other hand, there is danger of interfering with brood-rearing in the spring. Later in the fall and winter, when the cold is severe, there is more danger of combs breaking down, because brittle with the cold. I don't know what freight-rates are; there are a thousand different rates, depending upon the different points of shipment and destination; and these you can get by applying to the railroads in question. You speak of sending by freight, but in many places you can send bees by freight only in car-lots. Indeed, unless there has been a change through a large part of the West, if not in the East, the only way to ship bees on railroads is by express, unless you wish to pay for a whole car.

## A Two-Story Colony—Ripe Honey

1. We put an extra hive over a colony in July without putting on a queen-excluder, and we find now that the queen has gone "upstairs," and consequently there are eggs and brood in both hives. What is the prescription in that case? There appears to be lots of bees, but it would hardly seem probable to a neophyte that one queen could run two establishments. Shall we try to get them back in one hive?

2. When honey is sealed and capped over by the bees, is it ripe and ready to take off? If not, how is one to know?

F. E. K.

ANSWERS.—1. The neophyte who should conclude that a queen could not run two establishments, or at least an establishment occupying two stories, has a rather limited view of the capability of a 20th century queen. It is morally certain that there is only one queen in the hive, and the proper prescription is now to reduce to one story. By the time this reaches you it is not likely that there is any brood present, unless it be a little sealed brood. At any rate, here is what you are to do: Make an investigation of the upper story, and if you find it well stocked with full frames of honey, very likely it will be well to put it on the bottom-board in place of the lower story. At any rate, you are to put into the lower story all the frames containing brood (if there be any brood), and fill up with the heaviest frames of honey to be found in either story. So over this the other story containing the remainder of the frames, together with their adhering bees. Lift out one of the frames and brush back into the hive all the bees from it. Do the same with the rest of the frames and then put on the cover.

# American Bee Journal

An hour later, or the next day, you will find the bees all down in the lower story, when you can remove the empty upper story. Whatever frames of honey you take away will come in handy next spring to give the bees in place of combs they have emptied. Better keep them in the cellar, or somewhere where they will not freeze.

2. As a rule, when honey is sealed it is ripe, and it isn't ripe till it is sealed. That's the rule, and if you follow it in taking off honey all the mistakes you make will never send you to the penitentiary. As with most rules, there are exceptions. The bees may seal up honey before it is ripe, and they may leave it unsealed after it is ripe. You can tell by seeing whether the honey is thick or thin. If it's thick, call it ripe. But the exceptions are so few that in actual practise I never paid any attention to them, merely counting all honey ready to take off if sealed.

## Robbers or Young Bees Playing?

On page 219 of "Forty Years Among the Bees," I find this sentence:

"I think I can tell by carefully looking at bees when flying with unusual commotion at the entrance of a hive whether it is a case of robbing or bees at play, but I am not sure."

Knowing that it is not possible that a man who has kept bees as long as you have should have failed to notice that playing bees always keep their heads toward the front of the hive in all of their maneuvers, I wondered why you did not mention this fact when writing on this subject. Time and again I have had persons come to me in an excited way and tell me that the bees were swarming. I would hasten to the yard only to find playing bees in front of one or more colonies, all with their heads toward the entrances of the hives. I have never mistaken a case of this kind for a case of robbing. In cases of robbing there is not the quiet and orderly deportment of these young bees, and there is a greater number of

bees right at the entrance of the hives, and generally a little fighting has begun.

Don't make the mistake of supposing that I have written anything for your enlightenment. There are things which speak as plainly as some words do, but do not convey the same meaning to others. I have written with a view to incite the beginner in bee-keeping to become a careful observer.

IOWA.

ANSWER.—The incompleteness of your quotation gives a somewhat wrong impression. As you give it, the meaning seems to be that I am not sure whether I can tell playing from robbing. The correct meaning is given by finishing the sentence as it is in the book, the last part of the sentence being, "I am not sure I could tell some one else the difference in appearance." Yet that is not a very great matter; what we are both at is to tell the beginner how he is to distinguish between robbing and playing. You are quite right in the general statement that playing bees fly with their heads toward the hives; robbers are not as quiet and orderly in their behavior as playing young bees, and generally a little fighting has begun where there is robbing. And you and I can tell pretty well by those marks, as well as by the other marks in "Forty Years." Yet are you sure a beginner who has been told these things can tell whether it's robbing or playing when he for the first time sees a case of either? For you have never seen some of the playing bees with their heads away from the entrance, and some robber bees flying with their heads toward the entrance? And when the beginner sees his first case of playing, how is he to know that the bees are any more quiet and orderly than when they are robbing? What looks quiet and orderly to you looks confusion to him, seeing he has never seen a case of robbing. And, of course, you know that often there is no fighting when robbing is going on. So you see how difficult it is, sometimes, to tell another how to see what looks so very clear to you. Besides, I have seen cases where I had to study no little time to decide whether there was robbing or not.

All this does not excuse any man pretending to write about the matter from leaving out one of the most prominent features in diagnosing; and I thank you for calling attention to the matter. At the same time, let us make an amendment by saying that when bees are playing, a large part of them will be seen flying backwards—that is, they will be flying away from the entrance with their heads pointing toward the entrance.

## Bargains

Best Wisconsin Sections, per 1000—\$4.00; No. 2—\$3.40; plain, 25c less. 7 percent discount in October on Root's and Danz. Hives, and other Root's Goods.

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## What Dr. Miller Thinks of the Bee-Hive Clock

Busily ticking away, in the room where I am sitting, stands a genuine bee-keeper's clock (please understand that the word "genuine" belongs to the clock and not to the bee-keeper) or, as the legend upon the clock has it, "The Bee-Hive Clock." I don't know

whether the idea of getting up such a clock was conceived in the brain of the Editor of the American Bee Journal, or whether he got it elsewhere, but the wonder is that such a thing was not thought of long before.

Setting aside all idea of its association with the business of a bee-keeper, there is a peculiar appropriateness in having the minutes and the hours "told off" in a case representing the home of the busy little workers. The glance at the clock, with its ceaseless tick, tick, tick, can not fail to remind one that the flying moments must be improved now or be forever lost, and that suggestion is reinforced by the thought of the never ceasing activity of the little denizens of the hive, always busy, busy, busy, working from morn till night and from night till morn, working unselfishly for the generations to come, and literally dying in the harness.

Let us be thankful that the form of the old-fashioned straw hive or skep was adopted, and not that of any modern affair, patented or unpatented. The latter smacks of commercialism, but the former of solid comfort, for no other form of hive has ever been devised that contributes so fully to the comfort and welfare of a colony of bees as does the old-fashioned straw-hive. It appeals, too, to one's artistic sense as can no angular affair of more modern times. As an emblem of industry, artists have always used—probably always will use—the old straw skep.

Thanks, Mr. Editor, for furnishing us a time-keeper so appropriate for all, and especially for bee-keepers. C. C. MILLER.

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# American Bee Journal

## CONVENTION NOTICES.

**Illinois.**—The 16th annual session of the Illinois State Bee-Keepers' Association will be held in the Supreme Court Room in the State House, on Tuesday and Wednesday, Nov. 20 and 21, 1906. Railroad rates to annual sessions of the I.O.O.F. at Springfield, can be used by bee-keepers also as follows: An open rate of one fare plus 25 cents for the round trip to Springfield and return. This rate can be secured by any one desiring to come to Springfield on the date of ticket sale, the open rate having been made by all lines in the Central and Western Passenger Associations. Tickets can be purchased on Nov. 18, 19, 20 and 21, but must be used on the day of purchase. The return limit on tickets is Nov. 24.

Hotel rates, for board and lodging, \$1.25 and upward. We expect the largest meeting the Association has ever had, as its membership is larger than ever before, and, furthermore, we expect to have with us Pres. C. P. Dadant, of the National; Pres. George W. York, of the Chicago-Northwestern; Pres. J. E. Johnson, of the Western Illinois; General Manager N. E. France, of the National; and R. A. Holekamp, Secretary of the Missouri State Bee-Keepers' Association. Let every member of our Association make an effort to be present, and bring a neighbor bee-keeper with him, assured of a good meeting if you will help to make it such. (Bring your wife, too.)

JAS. A. STONE, Sec.

R. R. 4, Springfield, Ill.

**Chicago-Northwestern.**—The Executive Committee of the Chicago-Northwestern Bee-Keepers' Association take great pleasure in making the following announcement:

Through the kindness of friends it is possible to hold the next convention of our Association in the fine hall known as "Brunt Hall," in the Bush Temple of Music, corner of Chicago Avenue and Clark Street, Chicago. This is the same hall where the National Association met last December. Arrangements have been made with the restaurant in the basement to serve good meals at very reasonable rates. The Revere House will lodge bee-keepers at their usual low rates. This hotel is at the corner of North Clark and Michigan Streets.

Dr. C. C. Miller writes: "I don't know how much I can do toward making or marring the convention, but, Providence permitting, I'll be there."

N. E. France says: "So far as I know now, I can come."

C. P. Dadant writes: "I promise to attend your convention if possible."

Let us have a full attendance of all the bee-people (ladies and gentlemen) within reach of Chicago. Come and see the great International Live Stock Exposition, and spend part of your time at the bee-keepers' convention. The meetings will be as follows: Wednesday, Dec. 5, 10 a.m. to 12 m.; 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, 9 a.m. to 12 m.; and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

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**Forty Years Among the Bees,** by Dr. C. C. Miller.—This book contains 328 pages, is bound in handsome cloth, with gold letters and design; it is printed on best book-paper, and illustrated with 112 beautiful original half-tone pictures, taken by Dr. Miller himself. It is unique in this regard. The first few pages are devoted to an interesting biographical sketch of Dr. Miller, telling how he happened to get into bee-keeping. About 20 years ago he wrote a small book, called "A Year Among the Bees," but that little work has been out of print for a number of years. While some of the matter used in the former book is found in the new one, it all reads like a good new story of successful bee-keeping by one of the masters, and shows in minutest detail just how Dr. Miller does things with bees. Price, \$1.00.

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**HONEY**

HONEY

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